ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus and method are provided for determining a level of expertise applicable to a particular document and for using this determined level of expertise in an improved information retrieval arrangement. A trainable document classifier is used to identify an applicable level of expertise using a metric indicative of the commonality, as measured with reference to a reference corpus, of terms comprised in a given document, trained using a training set of documents comprising, for each of a plurality of predetermined levels of expertise, a representative sample of documents and their respective metric values. An information retrieval apparatus is arranged to identify documents relevant to a specified category of information and to select from documents so identified those having a level of expertise, determined by the trained document classifier, matching a specified level of expertise for a target user in respect of that category of information.

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